COMRADELY

to Whom Years Have Brought Charity

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Being regular and rather thorough reader of the columns of the soldier's friend, THE NA-TIONAL TRIBUNE, and greatly interested in the welfare of the Grand Army of the Republic, I am sometimes amused, and at other times pained, at the ideas advanced by some of the old comrades. It seems impossible for some to realize what an infinitesimal part of the grand whole they or their organizations were in the mighty operations of the Union armies from 1861 to 1865.

We, the survivors of those perilous days, are getting old, and it is generally conceded with advancing years we become more firm in our convictions, our prejudices are stronger, and some even intimate that we are becoming a set of cranks. Is it not possible for us to recount our experience and fight our battles o'er without indulging in personal recriminations and mean, hateful flings at comrades or organizations? We ought always to remember that we are comrades, and that that title should be more endearing than that of any other fraternal society on earth. From the very nature of things we could not all see the same action in the same lights and shadows. I have in mind a notable example of this in my own experience. At the first battle in which my regiment was engaged the Union forces were outflanked, outnumbered, and quite a panic ensued. As a consequence the Medical Department of the brigade, of which our regimental Surgeon was the head, was ordered to the rear, and were compelled to make their exit rather unceremoniously through broken and disorganized bodies of troops. Our Surgeon, who was, by the way, an eminently fair-minded and truthful man, supposing that all parts of the line was in the same condition as in his immediate vicinity, wrote home that "the regiment was swept from the field without making any resistance," giving the impression that their conduct was not soldierly, when the fact was that the regiment was in line-of-battle, facing the enemy, and heroically contending with superior numbers, while the old doctor was riding to the rear with the stragglers, and no man in the army was more surprised than he to learn later on that his own regiment had had 87 men position, and had received the thanks and ministration. raise of the Commanding General for their stances. I merely mention this incident to show how easy it is to be mistaken, and with what facility false reports get circu-

I want to extend the right hand of fellowship to the comrade who signs himself Corp'l Brogan, of the 1st L. I., in your issue of Dec. 10. His article breathes the spirit of true comradeship, and will be read and believed by thousands where the egotistical braggadocia of those who can see nothing good, except in their own commands, will fail flat. It is strange that we poor mortals cannot realize that the moment we endeavor to haul down our brothers in order to build up our own reputations, that moment we commence the manufacture of a petard which will surely react upon ourselves.

In your issues of Dec. 3 and 10 comrades take exceptions to the issning of the "Congressional Medal of Honor." I do not agree with the comrades. Nor do they make a fair statement of the conditions under which the medal is given. The Editor of THE NA-TIONAL TRIBUNE, Dec. 10, makes a telling point regarding the muddled condition of those who mistake money for wealth. The two comrades referred to above appear to be muddled by mistaking what the medal is given for. "It is not given for general good soldiership," but for some specified act of removal of an official is regarded as in gallantry, and does not indicate that another the nature of confidential correspondence." service under like conditions. It simply means that this comrade was placed in certain conditions wherein the chance to show his mettle occurred, and that when the chance came he proved equal to the occasion. There is no more reason for their comrades feeling insulted or jealous than there is for us who passed through the ordeal unscratched feeling injured because many other comrades got in the path of bullets, lost a leg or

an arm, and are now drawing a pension for it. It is not a fact that any so-called "political pull " can obtain for a man one of those coveted bits of bronze, unless his own comrades who were eye-witnesses to the act shall bear false witness; and if anyone wear their badges solely and purely by thinks they are issued for trivial causes, let him try and obtain one on that basis.

For instance, that Corporal of the colorguard of the 124th Ohio. They had attempted to take a line of works down in the Georgia woods, charging up to within a provision the new President will, of course, few paces; but the pits were too heavily manned; and they were forced to retire a short distance. In this retrograde movement the Color-Sergeant was killed; and as the regiment turned to face the foe in its insist that all such rights be respected under 132d N. Y. He went to the front as Captain of the teachers said to me: "Harry, you ought to the teachers said to me: "Harry, you ought to be a Bryan boy; you ought not to be the only black sheep in the flock." retired position their colors lay 15 rods in front, midway between their line and that of the foe. Instantly one of the color-guard | indite for the new President, let this be the sprang forward, but ere he reached the flag shibboleth: "Restore to their places the men his body was literally riddled with rebel who were unjustly dismissed-and then lead. Another went forward, but was right merrily will we push along the cause of tion of its affairs showed that Gen. Classen | ing at Stevensburg, and to a Republican meetkilled like the first, and a third essayed to genuine Civil Service Reform."-A COMRADE and some of his fellow directors had not only ing at Lignum. rescue the sacred emblem. He reached it, WHO ABHORS SHAM REFORM. but as he stooped to pick it up he, too, went down, never to rise again. Now, our Corporal, regardless of the fact that four of his comrades had been stricken down, rushed forward, caught up the colors, and brought them back to their place in the line. It is said that the enemy, seeing his daring heroism, ceased firing, and allowed him to return unbarmed. This was a little act, by the loss of their peculiar property. She his wife and daughter, who survive him. only required a few brief moments in its has also shown a conciliatory spirit in promexecution, yet who will say that he does not deserve the medal, or that it was not fairly

Again, on that hot 2d of July, at Gettysburg, when in that whirlpool of death around the "Peach Orchard" the gallant old Third Corps was forced back, after fighting one of the most deadly heroic battles of any war, Maj. Baldwin, sorely wounded, dismounted, stretched upon the ground almost in the grasp of the enemy, when a private of his old company went back at the imminent peril of his life and brought his beloved comrade off the field, and the gallant Major and generous comrade would vote to give jury was suicide while temporarily deranged. that private the "badge of courage."

Just one more. At the battle of Peach Tree Creek, when the serried lines in gray, pressing forward, battle-lipe after battleline, found an opening between the First and Second Divisions of the Twentieth Corps, and pouring into the breach had

living, let them be crowned with that" Badge I ful curative power.

of Honor" which by the laws of our beloved country, framed by great statesmen and sanctioned by great soldiers, indicates not that the wearer was braver than his comrades, but that their opportunity came and

found them ready.
Out upon this childish fault-finding, that can have its origin only in envy. We prove ourselves all the greater by acknowledging that we were the comrades of brave, true men. Yours in F., C. and L.-C. W. McKAY, Islands, Dec. 30, in the presence of an immens Co. C, 154th N. Y., Fergus Falls, Minn.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

Comrade Makes Some Pertinent Remarks Regarding Real Reform.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Your per inent editorial comments upon points raised by a New Orleans comrade, as to certain features of the Cleveland variety of Civil. Service reform, are timely and especially interesting just now. The sentiments therein expressed will bear repetition and widespread

"No prating about Civil Service Reform now should be allowed to fasten upon the public mind the idea that either Cleveland or his subordinates have honestly administered the Civil Service laws, either in letter or spirit. Indeed, thousands of cases can be cited to show that the reverse of this is true.

"A reversal of the conditions and things which were made to follow the victory of the present Administration in 1892" is surely | is receiving in Cape Colony is looked upon by incumbent upon the soldier President to be inaugurated next March. And that means that the veterans unjustly removed from office should be replaced very early next

But it may not be generally understood that under the construction of the law given by the present Administration no "permanency of position" is vouchsafed any officer in the civil service, even though the place held be distinctly enumerated as among those in "the classified service."

Every mother's son of them may be dismissed summarily, upon the veriest pretense as to "cause," if only the head of the Department in which the officer serves and the Secretary of the Treasury be in accord as desiring to put the "in" "out" that some "out" may be put "in." That may surprise many not conversant with the devious ways and flexibility of the peculiar system which Tom Reed once aptly characterized "the Snivel Service Reform," but it is the exact situation, as all know who are conversant with Cleveland methods. The law covers only the avenues of approach to the civil service of the Government; those as to exit" are as fully under the control of the appointing power as in the old days of "the spoils system," so violently assailed by shot down in attempting to hold their Daniel Webster during the Jackson Ad-

soldierly conduct under very trying circum- fied service desired for a personal or political hospital at San Ambrosco, suffering from an the man holding the place is a faithful and prisoner will meet the expense. an exemplary officer. Nevertheless, there is "a way out." Suppose it be in the Customs | Monday, and runs were begun on several to service. The Collector and the Secretary others. The day was an exciting one in finanare of the same party and of one mind as to hostility towards Republican office-holders under a Democratic Administration.

The Collector writes confidentially to the Secretary that A. B., holding such and such office, is not agreeable to him, and he desires the place for another man. He may give some alleged reason. The officer may be cross-eyed, have red hair, be a trifle deaf, near-sighted, a little lame, etc. Very well; authority of the Secretary of the Treasury I have the honor to inform you that your services as - at this Port are no longer -, Collector."

Ah! But why is that? And that is for the removed official to ascertain if he can. The Treasury Department will give no other information upon so interesting a subject that "all correspondence touching the comrade would not have performed the same | The removed official may be a man of most exemplary habits and strictly temperate; and vet should the Collector have charged he was a confirmed inebriate, and the removal were made upon that accusation, the ex-officer could have no redress. It was a stab in the dark! No one that can be required to tell knows as to the weapon! And the cowards do not dare to reveal the subject-

matter of these communications. And this is the beneficent system which Cleveland has so generously extended, and under which Democrats hope to retain their appointees in positions thus won, and at the same time heralding to the world that they

virtue of "the merit system." As to honorably-discharged soldiers "separated from the service for no fault of their own," the Civil Service rules specifically provide for righting the wrong. This just enforce to the letter. But why should not the same measure of justice be meted out as | 9th N. Y. He went to the front as Captain of I was the only one in our school, and one of insist that all such rights be respected under the incoming regime.

Quoting the admirable proclamation you

France in Madagascar. France has not only been prompt to extinguish slavery in Madagascar, says the New York Advertiser, but she has also shown her accustomed and traditionally liberal colonial policy in offering to aid any former slave owners who may be reduced to poverty | living quietly at his home in Brooklyn with ising that no extraordinary war tax shall be levied on the people of the conquered island. French colonies have been notably loyal to the mother country, which has lost few of them by revolt, and her conquered subjects | end and unprovided with a hand guard. It have often developed, in time, considerable

affection for her. W. A. Hammond, Vice-President of the suspended National Bank of Illinois, at Chicago, committed suicide by drowning Saturday morning. No criminal proceedings had been begun against Hammond, but it was understood that Comptroller Eckels had ordered such aclived to tell the story. Surely every brave tion to be taken. The verdict of the Coroner's

Strange New Shrub that Cures Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, etc.-Free. We have previously described the new botanic discovery, Alkavis, which proves a specific cure for diseases caused by Uric acid in the blood, or disorder of the Kidneys or urinary organs. It is now stated that Alkavis is a almost turned the flank of the "White product of the well-known Kava-Kava Shrub, Stars," and created some disorder, liable to and is a specific cure for these diseases just as develop into serious disaster-just at that quinine is for malaria. Hon. R. C. Wood, of like an ordinary army sword than a machete. moment no officer in reach seemed to realize the gravity of the situation—an Irish Corporal, of the 73d Pa., with the coolness of a Field Marshal, rallied about 200 men, rescued the guns of Bundy's famous battery.

Lowell, Ind., writes that in four weeks Alkavis cured him of Kidney and bladder disease of ten years' standing, and Rev. Thomas M. Owen, of West Pawlet, Vt., gives similar testimony.

Many ladies also testify to its wonderful curacued the guns of Bundy's famous battery, topped Stewart's bronzed veterans in their mad rush, saved the Union line from repulse, and ought to have been made at least Avenue, New York, and they are so anxious to a Captain on the spot. Is it an insult to prove its value that for the sake of introduc-any other comrade that he wears the "Medal of Honor"? Is there one of that gallant band who surrounded and supported him that would not vote to give it to him?

The above are but examples of what every comrade witnessed who served in any of the active corps.

The deeds of heroism were so primerous. The deeds of heroism were so numerous ferers to send their names and address to the that the story can never be more than half company and receive the Alkavis free. It is But where known, and the actors are sent to you entirely free, to prove its wender-

BRIEF NEWS

Ottawa, Canada, was visited by an earthquake Saturday morning. No serious damage has been reported, but the shock was distinctly felt all over the city.

Dr. Rizal, the leader of the Philippine revolution, was shot at Manilla, in the Philippine crowd. He was first sentenced under Gen.
Polavieja's new policy of vigorous repression
and summary earrying out of sentences. Gen.
Polavieja absented himself during the execution. Great precautions were taken to prevent a popular demonstration. On his trial by court-martial Dr. Rizal admitted that he was the author of the constitution of the Philippine League, the object of which was revolutionary, but denied that he had taken any active part in the rebellion.

Edward J. Ivory, of New York City, now under arrest in London on the charge of planning dynamite explosions during the recent visit of the Czar to England, will be defended by John F. McIntyre, who has resigned the office of Assistant District Attorney of New York and sailed for London.

Gen. Weyler may be removed from command of the Spanish army in Cuba. It is asserted in Madrid that a decision has been reached to recall him, but that the Premier, Senor Canovas del Castillo, has suspended the order.

The enthusiastic reception that Cecil Rhodes Trausvaal officials in the light of an insult. A significant speech was made New Year's day by Judge Jorrisen, on the occasion of weilwishers calling upon President Kruger. Rhodes was classed as a highwayman.

The war correspondent of La Tucha, of Havana, has interviewed Weyler, whose column he joined at San Cristobal. The Captain-General declares that the revolution in Pinar del Rio is suppressed, and that not over 500 rebels are now in that Province. These, he thinks, will soon surrender, or die of disease and hun-

The statement published by a Boston paper that Gen. Gomez receives a salary of \$100,000 a year as Commander-in-Chief of the Cuban army is denounced by Gonzalo de Queseda, Charge

A terrible state of affairs is reported in the labor market of Nicaragua. Hundreds of men, women, and children are held in virtual slavery. These people have sold their labor for small sums of money advanced them, and are now endeavoring, by every meaus except an armed revolution, to escape from the servitude incident to the sale, authorized by the Constitution of Nicaragua, and vigorously enforced by military power until the money or goods advanced, interest thereon and heavy fines, have been paid in full by labor at low rates

Henry Delgado, the correspondent of the N. Y. Mail and Express, who is held by the Spanish favorite is held by a member of the opposite abscess. He will likely die unless permission political party, and if the "in" can be got can be obtained for the performance of a surgi"out" the road to appointment is clear. No valid reason can be assigned for removal, as | ities are not opposed to this being done if the

Three St. Paul banks closed their doors cial circles. The banks that have suspended are the Germania, Allemania and West Side, all State institutions.

The steamer Commodore, which cleared Jacksonville, Fla., for Cienfuegos, Cuba, Thursday, with a cargo of arms and ammunition, foundered off New Smyrna early Saturday morning. Of the 28 men on board the vessel at the time of the disaster, 20 have been accounted for. The other eight must have been drowned. Stephen Crane, the novelist, was on the vessel, but whether he be or no, permission is given to reached shore safely in a lifeboat in company retire him, and the officer forth with receives the stereotyped communication: "Sir: By steamer, and two of the crew. The Cubans to "fight them over" in the Post-room.

Then, it will give the Sons a better of the crew. charge treachery in the wreck of the steamer, saying that so soon as it was discovered that but were found to have been tampered with, and were useless. The men were then set at work bailing out the vessel with buckets, a futile task that was soon abandoned.

Three Spanish newspapers, the Imparcial Heraldo and Correspondencia, of Madrid, have withdrawn their correspondents from Havana. This action was taken on account of Government prosecution of these papers.

Heavy snowstorms raged throughout the Northwest during the early part of this week, and train service is badly crippled. A dispatch in his private letter to the Secretary that from St. Paul reports the storm the worst that has occurred for years. Devil's Lake and Grand Forks, N. D., reported no train for over 36 hours. Dispatches from Yankton, S. D., say that only one railroad in the State moved a train Sunday, and that was a local. Nebraska and Missouri both report heavy snowstorms.

Eugene V. Debs has formally left the Popu

Gen. Claassen Dead,

Gen. Peter J. Claassen died at his home in Brooklyn, N. Y., Tuesday, Dec. 29, of Bright's Arenbeim, Holland, and was a graduate of the University of Heidelberg. He came to this business and assisted in the organization of the true-blue McKinley boy. of his regiment, and served with credit to the "I said that I was a McKinley boy out and vet Brigadier-General. He resumed his brok- schools I was going to stick up for them. erage business, and finally became a Director in the Sixth National Bank.

When the bank failed in 1890 the investigamade false returns of the surplus and deposits, but had misapplied the funds. Gen. Claassen was indicted, and in March, 1891, was tried and him a new trial, but it failed. His health broke an 80-foot pole. down in prison, and his friends appealed to President Cleveland and secured his pardon in | flag, which they hung on a rope across the street August, 1893. Since his release he has been

Improving on the Machete. The machete, in the hands of the insur- at the school-house there. gent Cubans, is a knife about two feet long, with a blade very slightly curved at the is a deadly weapon for close fighting, but has the disadvantage of being only a cutting send it to some boy, who can turn it over to

It cannot be used to advantage for thrusting. These disadvantages have been realized in actual warfare, says the New York | best way until the meeting of the School Board Herald, and consequently the insurgents have placed an order with German and English firms for the manufacture and shipment to Cuba of a weapon that the insurgents have decided is the ideal one for their use. It is a machete with a short handguard and a blade 28 inches long and two and a half inches across in the widest part. It will make a weapon that, in the hands of men who have been used from boyhood to wielding a heavy cutting implement, will

prove a deadly one at close quarters. The still more elaborate machetes that are made for the use of officers are shaped more These officers' swords look prettier than the ugly business-like machetes made for the rank and file, but the officers themselves do not take kindly to them, preferring a weapon | over every school house in Old Virginia, and the that is guaranteed in the right hand to de- lessons of loyalty it teaches will make the boys

To Preserve Traction Belting. A new method of increasing the durability of leather belting used in driving machinery consists in imbedding the cleaned belt in a composition of several silicates and heating moderately. This adds fat to belts which have lost their pliability, but abstracts it from those which already have too much. Perhaps, owing to the moisture present, belts which have stretched return to their original length and subsequently resist tension to an incredible degree.

POLITICAL NOTES

Dudley Township, Hashell Co., Kan., was the only voting precinct that gave Palmer and Buckner a majority. It is true it wasn't a big one, for there are only 22 votes in the Township, but it was a majority. Gen. Buckner sent the Dudley Democrats a check for \$50 and 25 gallons of fine old Kestucky whisky. They decided to have a Christmas dinner in the schoolhouse, and made a royal spread of turkey, quail and venison. A hig growd was present, and in the evening there was a dance. and in the evening there was a dance.

The Indiana Senatorial contest has narrowed down to one among Chas W. Fairbanks, W. Riley McKeen, R. W. Taylor and Hiram Brownlee, with Fairbanks apparently strongly in the lead. It is believed that Brownlee will throw his strength to Fairbanks, in return for his support for the Senatorship two years hence. Ex-President Harrison's letter of withdrawal cleared the situation very much, and helped harmonize the party, since he said that he would not "meddle" with the struggle.

Joseph B. McCullagh, the veteran editor o the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, was found dead under his bed-room window Friday. It was suggested that he had committed suicide by jumping from the window above, but the Coroner's Jury rendered a verdict of accidental death. McCullagh was one of the best-known newspaper men in the country, and through his efforts the Globe-Democrat became the leading paper of the West.

The avowed candidates for the Illinois Senatorship are Representative R. B. Hitt, Alderman Madden, ex-Representative Wm. E. Mason, ex-Gov. John M. Hamilton, and Col. Clark E.

Reunion of Collis's Zouaves. The 26th annual Reunion of the 114th Pa. (Collis's Zouaves), was held in the rooms of Post 46, Philadelphia, on the 34th anniversary of the battle of Fredericksburg. As early as 2 o'clock the old boys began to assemble in the rooms to greet each other. At 4 o'clock the business meeting was held, the Adjutant reported a membership of over 400, and four deaths have occurred since the last annual Reunion. The following officers were elected Pres., Robert J. McCouch; First V.-P., Henry C. Mackie; Second V.-P., Henry C. Kelly Adj't, William E. Hoffman; Cor. Sec., Benj. L Myers; Treas., A. C. Brown; Chap., A. W d' Affairs de la Republique de Cuba, at Wash- | Given. One of the principal events of the ington, who says that the brave commander evening was the presentation to the Associa-fight for glory alone. evening was the presentation to the Association, by Maj. A. H. E. Richardson, of a handsome new American flag, to be used in draping the casket of deceased members when buried by the Association. At 7 o'clock the dinner-call was sounded, and some 200 of the survivors answered. Among the old officers present were Col. E. R. Bowen, A. H. E. Richardson, Capts. Tricker, Waterhouse, Schwartz, Bartelout, and Lieut. Miller. Gen. Seiper was the guest of the evening. The junior members, composed of the sons of the surviving members, turned out to the number of about twenty. Col. E. R. Bowen made the address of welcome. He was followed by Gen. Seiper, the commander of the 'red legs." Short speeches were then made by other comrades. A telegram from Gen. Collis, who is in Paris, expressing regrets, and wishing a merry Christmas to the members of the regiment; also, letters of regret from Comrades Given, Benson, and others were read.

> Admit the Sons of Veterans. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I have given the matter of admitting the Sons of Veterans to G.A.R. meetings a great deal of thought, and it is my honest belief that the passing of a resolution to that effect by the G.A.R. would be the best for both organizations. While the greater per cent, of benefit would fall to the Sons, still there would be left a large share for the Grand Army. Where? How? the veteran will ask. First, it would increase the attendance of the Post members, because they would find in the Sons eager listeners to their stories of camp, field, hospital, and prison pen; and who can show me a veteran who does not love

Then, it will give the Sons a better chance to prove conclusively to the comrades that they have no desire to infringe on a single privilege the vessel was leaking, the pumps were tried, held dear by them, and when that is once proven beyond doubt, it will be of the greatest benefit to both Orders. am the son of a veteran, and there is no

As regards a Junior G.A.R., I am against it. name that means so much, or carries so large an amount of honor for the Brothers as the one we now bear-Sons of Veterans .- Capt. H. M. HAINES, Commanding Camp 58, Division of Massachusetts, Wrentham, Mass.

Flags in the South. Loyal Home Workers will remember the action of seventh annual Reunion in voting to Va., upon information received from Harrison

Gordon, Stevensburg, to whom flags were sent Following is Harrison Gordon's latest letter. Upon receipt of it the President L. H. W. wrote the Vice-President, Mary A. Silloway, Minne-apolis, who pledged herself at St. Paul Reunion list party and come out as a Socialist. He says to contribute one of the flags, asking her to that he only supported Bryan and Free Silver forward "Old Glory" to Lignum, and report because they were the nearest approach to his the same through THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE. The other flag called for in Harrison Gordon's letter will be ordered direct by the Loyal Home Workers, as soon as more explicit information has been received from our correspondent. The letter follows:

STEVENSBURG, VA., Nov. 16, 1896. DEAR PRESIDENT L.H.W.: I received the country when 25 years old, and invested his Reunion button, and am very much obliged to small capital in the brokerage business. On you for it; and I have been wearing a Mcthe breaking out of the war he gave up his | Kinley and Hobart button, for I have been a

close of the war, retiring with the rank of Bre- out, and as the Republicans made our public They wanted me to hang up the school flag election time, but I would not; yet I lent my own flag to a Democratic meeting and speak-

The interest in the flag has increased in these parts, and last Summer George Edwards. an ingenious blacksmith, living five miles down convicted. He was sentenced to six years' im- the Fredericksburg road, made a large United prisonment. An effort was made to secure for | States flag, which he floats occasionally from The folks in Stevensburg made a good-sized

> at the Bryan Headquarters. You said that you had two flags ready for the Loyal Home Workers to send to schools down here. Well, I have arranged for one at Lignum, and they will put up a pole and hoist it

You can send it to Ashby Payne, at Lignum, Va., via Brandy Station, Va. I will soon send you the name of a boy at Brandy Station, Va., who will make a good custodian for the flag there. I think it best to

another boy when he leaves school. I corresponded with Mr. Beckham, our School Superintendent, and he thinks this the next year, when he will lay the matter of erecting poles at schools to which flags have been presented before them, and also take steps to look after the flags.

Until then each school will have to provide a pole, etc., itself. He highly commends the raising of Union flags at the schoolhouses to teach loyalty to the children, and will do all he can to help the cause along.

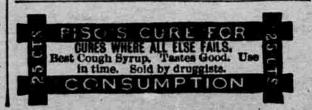
There were no rebel flags or disloyal demonstrations in all this section of country election times, but there was a good deal of feeling.

They put up a big picture of Bryan in our schoolhouse, and that gave me a chance to put up Maj. McKinley's motto: "Honest money and a chance to earn it,"

I had two uncles and six cousins to vote for McKinley solid in spite of everything. I hope the day will come when our flag will wave capitate a man as easily as a knife slices a our safeguards against any danger that may threaten our glorious country.

With a thankful greeting to all the Loyal

Home Workers who think so kindly of us down here, and hoping that I may be able to meet you at the Buffalo Reunion, I remain, Harrison Gordon. loyally yours-



EXPECTING A HARD WINTER People in Washington Look to One to E Off Pests.

Oregon the people are expecting a very hard Winter, and they have been preparing for it. They look hopefully to it to kill off a lot of pests from which they have been suffering. They say that the weather runs in cycles of 15 years and a very long, cold Winter is now due.

Large bands of cattle and sheep which are usually herded nearly al Winter are now under shelter consuming hay. The horse alone is left to roam the trackless plains of the semiarid belt and die.

Horses have become so cheap that many bands are running loose without being branded or cared for in the least. There being no demand, they have multiplied rapidly, and are now eating bunch grass that should otherwise support thousands of cattle and sheep, which bring in revenue. These horses are not worth \$1 apiece. There is absolutely no market for them.

The horses are destroying the ranges 12 months in the year. There are over 100,000 head in eastern Washington, and they are destroying ranges that would support 500,000 head of cattle. The situation is appalling, from the cattleman's standpoint.

Mr. Benson, of the Land Department, Northern Pacific Railroad, says: The hard Winter we expect will starve them to death. Owners will take out their good horses and care for them. If 90 per cent. of the total number are killed off, the 10 per cent. left will be worth as much as, if not more than, the entire lot now. Once killed off, they will never become as numerous again, for no efforts will be made to breed range horses, there being no money in 6th Pa. Cav. (the old turkey gobbler regiment), the business. The number needed for who stated that he brought greetings to the farming and the city demand can easily be supplied.

"For five or six years the squirrel pest has caused great trouble. Spokane County alone this year paid a cent a scalp bounty on 366,000 squirrels. They are the bane of wheat growers, especially along the edge, where the wheat belt merges into the semi-arid region. This is because the squirrels multiply more rapidly in the grazing district or semi-arid land, where there is usually no snow to drown them out. A hard Winter, with heavy snow, will drown them out in the Spring, practically exterminating the squirrels. That was the effect of the Winter of 1881, and the squirrels caused no more trouble until 1886 and 1887.

"Not since 1880 have the grasshoppers swarmed over eastern Washington as they did last Summer. Though practically unknown there, this year they became a menace. East of the Columbia River and north of the Snake they took the second cutting of the alfalfa crop, and in many small orchards they cleaned off every leaf, destroying the fruit crop. They damaged the bunch grass ranges in places. send flags to school-houses in Culpeper County, We believe they will be exterminated this Winter again, as in 1881.

"Last Summer, too, a little hard-

shelled black beetle, smaller than the potato bug, appeared and did considerable damage. These bugs destroyed the Out in Washington and eastern potato crop of Washington and Montana in the Summer of 1880, but never appeared again until this year."

Town Lots at 30 Cents Aplece.

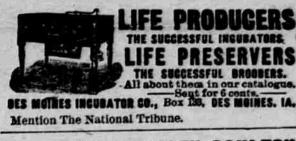
The decrease in values in the far

West is almost inconceivable to one who has not been through the change from inflation to depression. Hundreds of prairie cities are finding their real estate almost unsalable. They were once so sure of being the centers of the business life for a large surrounding country that the fall is beyond their comprehension. A sale of the assets of a central Kansas bank that failed in 1889 was held the other day, and many lots the highest bidder for 30 cents apiece. keep them above the level of farm land. and the same in price. Farms in the western part of Nebraska No. 1, 14k solid gold 40 dwt, case.

and Kansas are in the same condition. This has all resulted, not from the lack of effort, but from the fact that not enough water has fallen in the western third of Kansas and Nebraska to make the crops grow. It is not bad judgment or politics. Kansas has lost a quarter of a million in population in this way, and the fact has exerted a depressing influence on those who remain. It is the difference between the rising and the falling tide. The loss has occurred entirely in the western Counties, for the eastern part of the State has in the past year gained 18,000 in population, while the State as a whole has gained only 1,900, although the births outnumbered American Review.



T™ COLUMBIAN POULTRY BOOK as pages fully illustrated, practical, complete and to the point. Worth Dollars to poultry raisers. THESE TWO AREAT BOOKS sent postpaid to any address for only 15c. C. SHOEMAKER, Freeport, ill., U. S. A. Mention The National Tribune.



MAMMOTH POULTRY QUIDE 1897. Something entirely new; almost 100 pages; showing lithograph plate of Fowls in natural colors. Tells all about Poultry for profit or pleasure. Price 15 cents 1848 SAUSCHER. JR., Box 201 Freeport, Ille-Mention The National Tribune.



My work as a school teacher often brings on a state of intense nervousness, which prevents digestion and results in severe headaches. I have found that by watching my feelings and taking a

Ripans Tabule

when I feel myself becoming tired and nervous-Iget relief at the time and prevent further trouble.

WORK OF THE PENSION OFFICE

Report of Certificates Issued During the Week Ending Dec. 26, 1896.

C) LA SUMA	Original.	Increase and additional.	Refssue.	Restoration.	Accrued.	Duplicates.	Total.	Act June 27 1890, with—				Act Jun 27, 1890.	
								Original pending.	Original rejected.	Certificate pending.	Certificate not pend'g.	Original,	Add'l, etc.
Army Invalid	48	219 124	82	47	78 121		424 509	33	38	13	45	335	303
Army Invalid, act June 27, 1890	264 90	1	1			1	97					F	
A went Widow, etc., act June 27, 1890.	279	3			2	1	285	23	11		10	313	16
Manuel Invalid	16	5	2	1	5		Oct 1	1	1	1		18	11
Navy Invalid, act June 27, 1890							4						
Navy Widow, etc	14	Selected and Advanced in					15			1	,	14	2
	1						1	3-37		100			
										100			200
						******	***************************************	Ba.					5.13
1812 WidowOld War InvalidOld War Widow	•••••							E S		100		e: = [3.00
Old War WidowIndian Wars Survivor					6					0.00			
Lidian Wars Widow	10	********					10	-	6.6		100	(-5 S	
Mar Survivor	********	2		111145	10		11		33 1				0.05
Mar Widow	111	********	10	30		SCHOOL STATE			200				650
Act June 27, 1890, with other claims.	107	- 30	10	30		1		_	4		10-		1000
Total	846	885	45	78	231	2	1587	57	50	15	55	680	333

A Full Assortment of Waltham and Elgin Watches in Cases te Suit.

We have decided to make a new set of watch offers, which will allow all who need watches to procure them at remarkably low prices. These are offers of Walthams and Elgins only, and every watch in the list will keep accurate time for many years to come. Any subscriber may purchase many watches as desired, for either personal use or for friends. The watches are returnable within three days after receipt if not found to be as guaranteed or as expected in which event the money will be returned to you if desired.

FULL JEWELED WALTHAM OR ELGIN.

MEN'S SIZE.

A genuine Waltham or Elgin full-jeweled movement; contains 15 jewels in settings: compensation balance; safety pinion; miin western town additions that had been a part of the bank's assets were sold to spring, hardened and tempered in form; white porcelain dial, with either Roman or Arabic figures, and all the latest improve-They had been appraised at \$70 each ments. We will furnish these movements when the bank failed; but, as they were in any of the following cases, including free on the outskirts of a place that lost its being at liberty to choose either make of grip on prosperity, they had nothing to movement, since they are equally reliable

> Hunting 839.75 No. 2, 14k gold-filled, 20-year case, Hunting No. 3, 14k gold-filled, 20-year case, open-face No. 4, 10k gold-filled, 15-year case,

open face . . . No. 6, 14k gold-filled, Hunting . . No. 7, solid silver, open-face or Hunting ... No. 8, nickel-silver, open-face or

Hunting WALTHAM OR ELGIN. MEN'S SIZE.

A genuine Waltham or Elgin seveneweled movement; with compensation balance; safety pinion; patent Bregnet hairthe deaths by several thousand .- North spring, hardened and tempered in form; white porcelain dial, with either Roman or Arabic figures. We will furnish these movements in any of the following cases. including free delivery, at the prices named, the purchaser being at liberty to select either make of movement, since they are equally reliable and the same in price.

No. 9, 14k solid gold 40 dwt. case, Hunting No. 11, 14k gold-filled 20-year case, Hunting No. 13, 10k gold-filled 15-year case, Hunting

No. 16, nickel-silver, open-face . . THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, Washington, D. C.

The National Watch Chain.



We have had made specially for subscribers a Watch Chain which is to be a token of per-sonal service by its wearers in defense of their country. In the center is the star of the Grand Army, and on either side are the crossed cannons. It is made of heavy rolled gold, warranted for 10 years' constant wear.

It will be mailed to any subscriber for only \$4.50, or sent as a premium for a club of 10 yearly subscribers and \$2 added money; or as a premium for a club of five yearly subscribers and \$3 added money.

A CHANCE FOR THE LADIES.

We have just gotten in a very nice lot of Ladies' Victoria Chains at a cost never equalled before in our 15 years' experience in the premium business. These chains are heavy rolled-gold plate, and are of two patterns-one with a fan charm, and the other has a muff charm. The gold-plate is 14 karat fine and warranted to wear 20 years.

ny address, postpaid, upon receipt of only 95 cents. Think of it! and even if you only want to lay in an Xmas present for next December, it will pay to get one or more of these chains

These chains have been sold heretofore for

\$2.75 each. We will send either style to

WATCH CHAINS. We have secured a NO. 16.

valuable and elegant lot of watch chains beautiful in design, artistic in appearance and of such real worth that they are sure to be highly appreciated by every subscriber securing one. All these chains are made by wrapping a sheet of solid gold around a bar of composition metal, which is then drawn out to the required size and cut off in proper lengths for chain making. The links are soldered together with solid gold. No. 15 is a man's chain, like the cut, a trace or open link chain, Price, delivered, only No. 16 is a man's curb chain with close

links. Like No. 15, it is rolled-gold plate. Price, delivered, only

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, Washington, D. C.